



New Westminister Police Department

New Westminister Police Community Policing Committee Minutes for Thursday, March 16, 2017

In Attendance:

New Westminister Police Department – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) Dave Jansen
New Westminister Police Department – Jenniffer Sanford
New Westminister Police Department – Reserve Constable Nicolette Kisteman
Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association – Harry Jakimchuk
Moody Park Residents' Association – Philip Walkinshaw
Queensborough Residents' Association – Ross Hood
Queens Park Residents' Association – Bev McLellan
West End Residents' Association – Gavin McLeod
Sapperton Business Association – Ron Boorman
Downtown Residents' Association – Kate Abel
Quayside Community Board – Wendy Bosley

Absent/Regrets:

New Westminister Downtown Business Improvement Association (BIA)
McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association
Connaught Heights Residents' Association
Glenbrooke North Residents' Association
River Market at New Westminister Quay
Brow of the Hill Residents' Association
Lookout Emergency Aid Society
West End Business Association
Braid Business Association
Shops at New West
Douglas College

Welcome/Introductions

- A roundtable of introductions was conducted to allow new committee members to meet the representatives from the various Resident or Merchant Associations they represent.



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ROUNDTABLE/DISCUSSION:

New Westminister Police – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) Dave Jansen

- ❑ **Police Updates** – DCC Jansen provided information regarding Calls for Police Service (CFS) and updates on crime statistics for New Westminister. Calls for service (CFS) are an indicator of the number of calls to police and are not necessarily criminal code matters; they can also be social issues that police attend. A file may be generated for a CFS however police may not always attend. Overall across the city, there was a reduction in CFS and crime rates have decreased.
- ❑ **Crime Rates in New Westminister (year to date):**
 - Persons crimes have decreased by 23 %
 - Property offences have decreased by 13%
 - Break and enters have decreased 21%
 - Robbery has decreased by 33%

Overall crime rates in New Westminister have decreased by 15%.

February 2017 Statistics:

- ❑ **By Area:**
 - Downtown has seen a 17% decrease
 - Midtown has seen a 1% decrease
 - Skytrain crime has decreased by 33 %
 - West End had a 16% increase in CFS (47 more calls year to date)
- There were 163 CFS for February, which is lower than our 5-year average.

- ❑ **By Crime Category:**
 - Break and enters decreased by 11 %
 - Robberies decreased by 57 %
 - Theft from auto has decreased 8 %
 - Theft of auto increased 10 %
 - Business related crimes increase by 21 %

There has been an increase in thefts from undergrounds, storage lockers and bike thefts; primary areas have been Quayside and around the Royal Columbia Hospital.

- ❑ **NWPD Response to Quayside Thefts** – NWPD are looking into the Quayside thefts:
 - NWPD has increased patrol in the quayside area
 - NWPD Operational Support Unit (Bike Members) have also increased their patrols to the area
 - Volunteers in the Citizens' Crime Watch Patrol Program have been increasing their patrols in the area



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- NWPD Forensic Identification Services has been attending theft from vehicle incidents which are extremely important as these Members attend the scene to locate fingerprint evidence.

DCC Jansen explained that there have been some recent arrests made in the Quayside area for other reasons. While NWPD has not able to charge the individuals for the Quayside thefts, they were all good arrests.

- **Homelessness** – DCC Jansen discussed that homelessness is a challenge and stated that police will respond to calls regarding homeless if it is a criminal matter but police are not able to remove individuals off the street. If there are concerns around homelessness in the city, please do not hesitate to call police but there may be a delay in response depending on the reason for the call.

Lookout Emergency Aid Society – Is a charitable organization and social safety net that provides housing and a range of support services to adults with low or no income who have few, housing or support options.

Administration address: 544 Columbia Street, New Westminster V3L 1B1

Telephone: 604-255-0340 / **General email:** info@lookoutsociety.ca

Website: <http://lookoutsociety.ca/>

Emergency Shelter

Telephone: 604-529-9126 Ext. 101 / **Email:** lookoutnewwest@lookoutsociety.ca

Hannah Han, Residential Service Supervisor – May be contacted to assist anyone requiring her or her agency's assistance with homeless or street entrenched individuals (as long as it is not criminal in nature).

Direct Line: 604-529-9126 Ext. 109 / **Email:** supvr.russelltenancy@lookoutsociety.ca

- **Three People Arrested, \$25,000 of Drugs Seized** – Three people were arrested after the New Westminster Police Department seized drugs with an estimated street value of \$25,000 from a vehicle in New Westminster early Tuesday morning. The seizure and arrests were the result of an early morning traffic stop in New Westminster. The drugs seized are believed to be 100 grams of heroin and 82 grams of cocaine.

<http://www.nwpolice.org/blog/2017/03/14/three-people-arrested-25000-drugs-seized/>

- **New Westminster Police Interrupt Possible Attempted Theft from Construction Site** – The New Westminster Police Department is currently investigating an incident that occurred on March 8, 2017 at approximately 2:00am involving the possible attempted theft of construction tools.



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<http://www.nwpolice.org/blog/2017/03/09/new-westminster-police-interrupt-possible-attempted-theft-construction-site/>

- ❑ **NWPD Investigate Break and Enter on Paddle Wheeler Tour Boat** – Police were called at 2:11pm on March 2nd to the south side of River Road for a report of a possible break and enter to the moored vessel. Initial information indicates that a male suspect had forced his way onto the vessel and had started the engine. The suspect allegedly fired a flare at two witnesses in a nearby boat, thankfully no one was injured.

<http://www.nwpolice.org/blog/2017/03/03/nwpd-investigate-break-enter-paddle-wheeler-tour-boat/>

- ❑ **Child Abduction Investigation – Public Assistance Required** – On January 22nd at approximately 10:45pm the NWPD took a report of a possible child abduction. During a custody visit, the mother of 9 year old Makayla Estrada-Weber is believed to have taken her, violating a court order.

The New Westminister Police Major Crime Unit has taken conduct of the investigation. Detectives have determined that 48 year old Vancouver resident Wilma Estrada has entered into the United States with her daughter. Major Crime detectives are working closely with authorities in the United States to locate both mother and daughter.

<http://www.nwpolice.org/blog/2017/01/23/child-abduction-investigation-public-assistance-required/>

Update: officers from U.S. Customs and Border Protection located Ms. Estrada’s vehicle at a local hotel and, with the assistance of the Bellingham Police Department, were able to locate both Ms. Estrada and her child. The child was safely removed and transported to the Border where New Westminister Police detectives along with workers from the Ministry of Child and Family Development coordinated her safe return.

<http://www.nwpolice.org/blog/2017/01/24/update-child-abduction-investigation/>

- ❑ **Police Information Checks Now Available Online** – As part of our ongoing effort to optimize the use of technology, enhance efficiency, and better serve members of the public, the New Westminister Police Department is pleased to announce the launch of a new online application process for employment and volunteer Police Information Checks.

Available now via the NWPD website at www.nwpolice.org, this new feature allows residents of New Westminister to apply for a Police Information Check 24 hours a day, 7 days a week without having to attend the police department. All aspects of the process



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– including verification of identity and fee processing – are handled electronically using a platform provided by Triton Canada Inc., a secure, third-party provider.

<http://www.nwpolice.org/blog/2017/03/13/police-information-checks-now-available-online/>

- ❑ **New Westminister Police Department Adopts Naloxone to Fight Opioid Crises** – Throughout the month of February New Westminister Police Department members and front line civilian staff were trained in administering naloxone. The drug, which enters the body through a nasal spray, reverses the effects of opioids.

<http://www.nwpolice.org/blog/2017/01/31/new-westminister-police-department-adopts-naloxone-fight-opioid-crisis/>

The new naloxone program and policies will result in New Westminister Police and civilian staff having access to naloxone. Officers will be able to carry a personal naloxone kit while on patrol and kits will be supplied at stations throughout the department building.

For more information about the dangers of Fentanyl and other opioid drugs visit knowyoursource.ca

- ❑ **Calling Police** – DCC Jansen wants to remind everyone to encourage residents to call police for any suspicious activity as it can always lead to police intelligence.

West End Residents' Association – Gavin McLeod

- ❑ **Door to Door Scams, Better Business Bureau (BBB) and The Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC)** – Gavin McLeod discussed that recently in his neighbourhood there were two door to door salespeople selling furnace replacement and it may have possibly been a scam. The Better Business Bureau has some tips on Home Improvement Scams:

<http://www.bbb.org/homescam/>

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca) is the central agency in Canada that collects information and criminal intelligence on such matters as mass marketing fraud (e.g., telemarketing), advance fee fraud (e.g., West African letters), Internet fraud and identification theft complaints. For contact information:

<http://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/reportincident-signalerincident/index-eng.htm>



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Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association – Harry Jakimchuk

- ❑ **Attempted Break and Enter** – Harry Jakimchuk reports that a neighbour had 3 individuals attempt to break into their home on York Street. The suspects were either scared away by the homeowners or by a car alarm on the street. Harry Jakimchuk adds that unfortunately, the homeowner did not call police to report the incident. Jennifer Sanford had been in contact with the Block Captain and urged him to ask the homeowners to report the incident to police.

Queensborough Residents' Association – Ross Hood

- ❑ **No new reports or concerns.**

Sapperton Business Association – Ron Boorman

- ❑ **Theft and Break & Enter** – Ron Boorman reports that there were 4 thefts in the last week at the Original Bike Shop & Cap's Bicycle Museum. See Media Release: NWPD Investigates Break and Enter to Bike Store (March 2017): <http://www.nwpolice.org/blog/2017/03/29/nwpd-investigate-break-enter-bike-store/>. Ron Boorman added that Boorman Archery also had a break in.
- ❑ **Citizens' Crime Watch Patrol Program (CCWP)** – Ron Boorman had questions on whether there was still a CCWP Program in New Westminister. Jennifer Sanford stated that NWPD still has the CCWP Program and that the volunteers patrol all areas of New Westminister including Sapperton.
- ❑ **Crosswalk Concern** – Ron Boorman expressed concerns about the crosswalk located on E. Columbia Street between Ward and Sherbrooke Street. Ron Boorman spoke about how drivers are not stopping for pedestrians but are also speeding on the road. Rob Boorman would like to see crosswalk lights added to the crossing. Jennifer Sanford has directed Ron Boorman to connect with the Neighbourhood Traffic Advisory Committee whose mandate is to advise Council regarding traffic-related items referred to from the various resident associations for further examination, and has City of New Westminister Engineering and NWPD Traffic Unit sitting on the committee: <https://www.newwestcity.ca/committees/articles/4923.php>.

Quayside Community Board – Wendy Bosley

- ❑ **Property and Auto Crime** – Wendy Bosley reported that there have been several incidents of property and auto crime in different multidwelling unit buildings/parkade located in the Quayside area. Types of incidents that have occurred include:
 - Multiple theft from auto from vehicles
 - A key fob was stolen from a vehicle
 - Theft of auto
 - Multiple bikes were stolen from bike lockers



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Wendy Bosley noted that many of the incidents occurred on Saturday's between midnight and 3am. Prior to the meeting, Jenniffer Sanford spoke to Wendy Bosley about these incidents. Jenniffer Sanford has asked Wendy Bosley to provide her contact information to any resident who would like a home security check or to Strata Council members if they would like to have a walkthrough of the building for security recommendations.

Queens Park Residents' Association – Bev McLellan

- ❑ **Bicycle Theft** – Bev McLellan reports that a bike was stolen in the Queens Park area but that it was not reported to police.

Moody Park Residents' Association – Philip Walkinshaw

- ❑ **SkyTrain and Crime** – Philip Walkinshaw had questions around whether there are higher crime rates near SkyTrain stations. DCC Jansen stated that there has not been an increase in crime near SkyTrain stations but a decrease in overall crime.

Downtown Residents' Association – Kate Abel

- ❑ **Rental Property** – Kate Abel spoke about a property located in the 400 block of Carnarvon Street that in the last 2 weeks has seen an increase in emergency vehicles attending.
- ❑ **Possible Drug Activity** – Kate Abel reports possible drug activity in front the church located in the 500 block of Carnarvon Street.
- ❑ **Homeless** – Kate Abel noted that there have been homeless individuals sleeping around the church property located at 500 block of Carnarvon Street during the extreme weather that hit the Lower Mainland.
- ❑ **Sudden Death** – Kate Abel spoke a recent incident where a female was found in medical distress on the steps of a church but ended up passing away shortly afterwards. The church Deacon attended NWPD for assistance. DCC Jansen explained that NWPD responded and the death was not suspicious.

New Westminster Police Department – Jenniffer Sanford

- ❑ **Connecting Between Meetings** – Jenniffer Sanford informed the committee that if an issue or concern comes up between meeting dates to contact her.

Next Meeting Scheduled: Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 7pm.